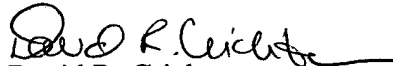


Remarks

Upon entry of the instant Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-10 and 12 are pending. Multiple dependencies in claims 3-9 have been eliminated without prejudice to the filing of claims directed to such subject matter in this or a subsequent application. Claim 11 has been canceled. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants aver that the instant claims are now in better condition for examination on the merits. Early favorable action is respectfully solicited. If minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted

  
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Amended Claims with Mark-up

3. (amended) A composition according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~claim 1 wherein said moiety B, which may be the same or different at each occurrence, comprises one or more units selected from the group consisting of esters, thioester, ethers, thioethers, ketones, secondary and tertiary amines, amides, imides, imines, azo, azoxy, ureas, urethanes, thiourethanes and sulfonamides.

4. (amended) A composition according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1 wherein said moiety B', which may be the same or different at each occurrence, are selected from the group of moieties that comprises one or more carboxylic acid and sulfonic acid, alcohol, phenol, thiol, amine, acetamide, cyano and hydrazine groups.

5. (amended) A composition according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1 wherein said moieties X and X', which may or may not be chiral, and are the same or different at each occurrence are selected from the group consisting of: H, linear and branched alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, alkanoyl, alkylthio, alkylthioalkyl, each having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms; linear and branched alkylaryl, arylalkyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, carboxylic acid, where the alkyl or alkoxy each has from 1 to 20 carbon atoms; alkyl having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms substituted with one or more sulfonic acid, carboxylic acid, halogen, nitro, cyano, diazo, or epoxy moieties; one or more substituted and unsubstituted single and fused 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 membered aromatic and alicyclic carbon rings, which rings may include one or more heteroatoms of nitrogen, sulfur, sulfinyl, sulfonyl or oxygen or combinations thereof.

6. (amended) A composition according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein said composition is characterized in that its peak temperature of crystallization is at least 3°C higher than the peak temperature of crystallization of said crystallizable thermoplastic polymer.

7. (amended) A composition according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein said composition is characterized in that the size of polymer spherulites in said composition is less than 50% of the size of spherulites in neat crystallized thermoplastic polymer that is void of said nucleators.

8. (amended) A process for enhancing the rate of crystallization of a crystallizable thermoplastic polymer that comprises the addition of an amount between about 0.001 percent by weight and about 20 percent by weight of one or more nucleators as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1.

9. (amended) Shaped objects comprising the composition according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1 selected from the group consisting of films, fibers, containers, coatings, parts, membranes, rods, tubes, fabrics, and foams.